



The Story of Boy Ecury, Aruba's World War II Hero, on view at the Cas di Cultura this weekend.

All of Aruba is rushing to buy their tickets for the screening of the film "Boy Ecury" that will take place this weekend over Friday, Saturday, and Sunday in the auditorium of the Cas di Cultura in Oranjestad. Aruba's great World War II hero died at the age of twenty-two, after being captured by the Nazis and executed for his daring exploits on the front lines of the Dutch Resistance.

Immortalized in a book by Boy Ecury's nephew Ted Shouten, his story was brought to the screen three years ago by producer/director Sherman de Jesus, and the film has been honored with several prestigious international awards. It was a featured finalist at the 2004 Moondance Film Festival, has garnered a Columbine award in the U.S.A.; a "Golden Kalf" from Holland; the "De Fipa D'or" of France and was named the Best Foreign Film in Israel for 2005.

The exciting story of Boy Ecury, portrayed by Steve Hooi, is told in flashbacks as his father, Dundun Ecury, a prominent businessman of Aruba played by well-known Dutch actor Felix de Rooi, returns to Holland to find out what happened to his son during the war. Boy and his younger brother Nicki resided in Holland as students and were both trapped there when the Germans invaded in May of 1940. Nicki was also in the resistance, but not in such a dangerously active way as Boy. The older brother participated in acts of sabotage of transport equipment, blowing up bridges, intercepting strategic transmissions and assisting the allies by rescuing pilots and soldiers that had crashed landed in enemy territory to escape. When Boy Ecury's mentor and friend Luis de Lannoy was captured, Boy attempted to rescue him and was captured himself. Even after being tortured, his refusal to betray his compatriots, despite the offers of a safe passage back to Aruba resulted in his being sentenced to death in front of a firing squad. He went to his fate with the declaration "In the house of my father, there is no place for traitors," a saying that has inspired a generation of young Arubans.

This award winning film can be viewed all this weekend, with a special premier showing on Friday night at 7:30 attended by the stars of the film and its maker, Sherman de Jesus. There will be a wine and cheese party and an opportunity to meet them and discuss the movie as part of the premier party. Screening is at 8:00 pm and the cost for this special event is only 35 Aruban florins, or \$20 U.S. The film is in Dutch with English subtitles, and so provides an enjoyable and informative experience for island visitors as well as Arubans. On Friday there will also be a 10:00 show for only \$9 U.S. There will be two evening screenings on the consecutive nights, at 7:30 and 9:30 pm at a cost of \$9, and there will be a 5:00 pm matinee on Saturday and Sunday for 7.50 Aruban Florins, or \$4.25 U.S. Tickets are only available in the lobby of the Cas di Cultura, located on the traffic circle of near the airport, during opening hours.

In 1947, the body of Boy Ecury was returned to his beloved homeland, where it rests in the Ecury family plot in the Catholic cemetery on the Caya Ernesto Pertonia. A statue in his honor was erected in 1949, on the L.G. Smith Boulevard, across from the Juliana School.